

At The Exploratorium

In The
McBean Theater

Fall '88

SPEAKING OF MUSIC

With human perception as its central theme, the Exploratorium has always used the insights of both scientists and artists to establish notions of how one sees, knows and understands the world. The Exploratorium's SPEAKING OF MUSIC series is one of many programs here that seeks to discover why things are the way they are: how an artist, as well as a scientist, or oneself, probes, investigates, interprets nature, and makes decisions. As with everything else at the Exploratorium, participation is the key, so we encourage you to ask questions of our guests.

SPEAKING OF MUSIC is made possible with the support of the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, Meet the Composer/California, and Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

SPEAKING OF MUSIC has been an ongoing presentation of the Exploratorium since 1972.

JANICE GITECK: Music and Healing 10 November 1988 8:00PM

Tonight's guest, composer Janice Giteck presently lives in Seattle where she teaches music composition and women's studies at the Cornish College of the Arts. In her current compositions she is working to recapture ancient musical attributes of ritual and trance, exploring ways music-making can be truly healing. Born in New York in 1946, Ms. Giteck studied composition with Darius Milhaud at Mills College and with Olivier Messiaen at the Paris Conservatory. Subsequently she has studied Indonesian gamelan music with Daniel Schmidt and percussion with Obo Addy, master drummer from Ghana. Her interest in music and healing recently led her to study psychology resulting in an M.A. from Antioch University, Seattle, in 1986. Beginning this year she is working with severe mental illness patients, including schizophrenics, at the Seattle Mental Health Institute using music as a means of opening and communicating.

Our program tonight will include a discussion of several recent pieces not yet commercially recorded as well as several Giteck classics, recently released on a compact disc from Mode Records. The new works include *Om Shanti* (1986), for soprano and six instruments, commissioned in 1986 by the Institute for Transformational Movement and dedicated to people living with AIDS. Also, *Tapasya* (1987), for viola and percussion, commissioned by violist Mimi Dye and recently premiered at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York. Excerpts from an earlier work, *Thunder, Like a White Bear Dancing* (1977), for soprano, flute, three chanters, piano and percussion, is heard from Ms. Giteck's new compact disc containing three works from 1978-80, written during the composer's last years as a resident of the Bay Area and her first in Seattle.

HOST AND PRODUCER OF SPEAKING OF MUSIC: CHARLES AMIRKHANIAN

Coming events: December 15: Butch Morris; January 19: Frederic Rzewski; February 16, Lou Harrison & William Colvig; March 16, Maggi Payne; May 11, Astor Piazzolla. 6:00PM